



Parish Sacramental Program 2024

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The sacrament of penance, or sacrament of reconciliation or confession, as it was previously called, is known as a sacrament of healing. This sacrament affirms the unchanging truth of God's love and forgiveness for the times we fail and need forgiveness. The sacrament of reconciliation is about acknowledging and naming those times when we know we have done wrong and then making peace and restoring relationships. God's love for us is expressed in mercy, compassion, forgiveness, and peace. For this reason, we can genuinely talk about celebrating reconciliation: what we celebrate is God's love and delight in us, even when we make poor choices that result in sinfulness.

Eligibility: Any baptised Catholic child in Grade 3 or above can enrol and participate in the programme.

Celebration of the Sacrament: Preparation commences in September with the Parent Information Night, and the Sacrament is received in mid-November.

Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist

The Sacrament of Confirmation confirms membership in the Christian community and seals Baptism with an anointing. Confirmation consists of a prayer to the Holy Spirit, the laying on of hands while the prayer is said, and the anointing of the candidate with the oil of Chrism.

The Church teaches that Confirmation confirms Baptism. Confirmation is an invitation to renew the Baptismal promises first made on our behalf by our parents and godparents when we were baptised. This process invites us into a more profound way of relating to God, to Jesus and to one another and becoming more actively involved in the community's life through the ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation Name

Your child can choose a Confirmation name which is a Saint's name. This name should be significant for them, which they relate to quickly. Confirmation confirms your child's baptism so they can be confirmed in their baptismal name (Christian name). We encourage you to spend time researching the Saints with your child and helping them to make an informed decision.

Confirmation Sponsor/ God Parent

Your child will also need to choose a Confirmation sponsor. The role of the sponsor is to provide a good model of Christian living, helping the child to live a life of faith according to gospel values.

The sponsor, then, has a close relationship with the child and will most likely continue to have such a friendship with them as they continue to grow and learn. Children are encouraged to consider choosing one of their Baptismal Godparents. This links the initial Sacrament of Baptism with Confirmation and re-affirms the role that Godparents accepted at Baptism.

There are certain requirements for a person to be a sponsor.

- The sponsor must be a Baptised Catholic who has been Confirmed and received Eucharist
 - Be a person who will be an excellent example to the child being confirmed
 - Be at least 16 years of age
 - They should practise their faith and, ideally, be available to attend the confirmation ceremony.
- A parent cannot be a sponsor for Confirmation.

The Sacrament of Eucharist is the sacrament at the heart of our faith and gives us our Christian identity. The sacrament nourishes and strengthens the whole community and makes us the 'Church and Body of Christ for the world'. For it is a gathering. In preparing for the Sacrament of Eucharist, your child is preparing to receive Jesus at Holy Communion for the first time. The Eucharist is unique among the sacraments. It gathers the community, gives it its Christian identity, and prepares the community for its mission. The Eucharist is, by its very nature, communal. The sacrament nourishes and strengthens the whole community and makes us the 'Church and Body of Christ for the world'.

Eligibility: Any child that has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Catholic faith.

Celebration of the Sacraments: Preparation commences in Term 1 of 2025 with Faith Formation. The Sacraments are received in May 2025, with Bishop Shane as the celebrant.

For more information, Please Contact:

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